

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2025

H.B. 857
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HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH40459-ND-104

Short Title: Create Alert/Missing Person w/ Disability. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative T. Brown.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT CREATING THE NORTH CAROLINA MISSING WITH DISABILITY ALERT
3 SYSTEM.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 SECTION 1. Subpart B of Part 5 of Article 13 of Chapter 143B of the General
6 Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

7 "**§ 143B-1022A. North Carolina Missing with Disability Alert System established.**

8 (a) There is established within the North Carolina Center for Missing Persons the North
9 Carolina Missing with Disability Alert System. The purpose of the Missing with Disability Alert
10 System is to provide a statewide system for the rapid dissemination of information regarding a
11 missing person or missing child who is believed to be a person with a disability as defined by
12 G.S. 168A-3(7a) that, in light of the person's or child's missing status, requires the person or child
13 to be protected from potential abuse or other physical harm, neglect, or exploitation.

14 (b) If the Center or a law enforcement agency receives a request that involves a missing
15 person or missing child as described in subsection (a) of this section, the Center or law
16 enforcement agency shall issue an alert providing for rapid dissemination of information
17 statewide regarding the missing person or missing child. The Center or law enforcement agency
18 shall make every effort to disseminate the information as quickly as possible when the person's
19 or child's status as missing has been reported to a law enforcement agency.

20 (c) The Center and all law enforcement agencies shall adopt guidelines and develop
21 procedures for issuing an alert for missing persons and missing children as described in
22 subsection (a) of this section and shall provide education and training to encourage radio and
23 television broadcasters to participate in the alert. The guidelines and procedures shall ensure that
24 specific health information about the missing person or missing child is not made public through
25 the alert or otherwise.

26 (d) The Center and all law enforcement agencies shall consult with the Department of
27 Transportation and develop a procedure for the use of overhead permanent changeable message
28 signs to provide information on the missing person or missing child meeting the criteria of this
29 section when information is available that would enable motorists to assist in the recovery of the
30 missing person or missing child. The Center and the Department of Transportation shall develop
31 guidelines for the content, length, and frequency of any message to be placed on an overhead
32 permanent changeable message sign."

33 SECTION 2. This act is effective when it becomes law.



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